2017 01 26 Thursday

INFO 2413 Group Meeting Minutes

1. Discussion about what the goals of the meeting should be.
   1. Instructor expects a fleshed-out concept of the project for presentation by next class, including some deliverables:
      1. Defining Project Responsibilities
      2. Stakeholder Analysis
      3. Milestone Chart (in unit hours)
      4. Project Definition Form
   2. It is decided that more conversation and brainstorming on the nature of the project is required, before the deliverables can be considered.
2. Details of project include:
   1. The project will be an online marketplace for “grassroots” startups; the marketplace should be as approachable and easy to use as possible, to allow the fastest path to exposure and sales as possible for potential clients, who wish to develop product ideas quickly.
   2. There are many online marketplaces. In an attempt to differentiate this one, the focus will be placed on the client identity, instead of on the product. The service (project) will analogize an actual marketplace or bazaar, in which potential customers walk through a common space, view storefronts, get a sense of the identities of the proprietors, and decide to enter a shop to browse wares.
   3. The service will essentially provide an online community in which clients (those with a storefront and product to sell) can be customers (those who shop in the bazaar) and customers can be clients.
   4. With this duality in mind, a mechanism will be included to facilitate “store credit”, which will allow clients to receive credit from other clients toward other products in lieu of hard payment for their product sales.
3. A discussion about general system (functional and nonfunctional) requirements has produced the following loosely-organized list:

* Client
  + default templates, additional templates
  + choose template
  + business analysis and financial statements
  + client storefront design – catalog design (customize store)
  + store catalogs (add, remove, change items)
  + update availability of catalog items
  + receive payment
* Customer
  + website – homepage to promote newly created companies, most popular, etc
    - Navigation:
      * select type of services
      * browse storefronts
        + storefront page
    - “About Us”; tutorials / FAQs / forum?
  + purchase items
  + manage cart (add/delete/checkout)
  + rating system (write review, rate review)
  + profile page (shows shares, likes, reviews)
  + pay for items/shipping
* Both
  + Account creation
  + Terms of Service are the same for both client and customer
  + Forward shipping cost to client from customer
  + Focus on “ease-of-use”
  + security (personal information)
  + product order forwarding
  + login

1. Before detailing the payment scheme and the service’s business model (for receiving payment), more information is needed regarding online payment services such as PayPal. Nirosh has agreed to do some preliminary research on this topic.
2. There was some discussion on a working title for the project. There was consensus on the idea that the title should in some way reflect the concept of a marketplace in the digital realm, but should also be interesting and “fun to say”, if possible. Some suggestions:
   1. Agora (right idea, but not really a “fun” word).
   2. Bit Bazaar (again, right idea, but might lead some to associate Bitcoin with the project).
   3. Binary Bazaar (a little too long)
3. The working title of the project, until another, more appropriate title is chosen, will be “Binary Bazaar”.
4. With a somewhat better understanding of the nature of the project, the group can now consider the deliverables expected for the next class.
   1. Defining Project Responsibilities will be completed by William.
   2. Project Definition form will be completed by Lucas.
   3. Stakeholder Analysis and Milestone Chart will be delegated and completed once the two former charts are completed.
5. Minutes and deliverables will be uploaded to GitHub repository for consideration and editing by all group members.